English Toolkit: Indicator 2.2.3

Student Handout: English: Indicator 2.2.3

Goal 2.0 Composing in a Variety of Modes

Expectation 2.2 The student will compose texts using the prewriting, drafting, revising, and editing strategies of effective writers and speakers.

Indicator 2.2.3 The student will revise and edit texts for clarity, completeness, and effectiveness.

Assessment Limits:

Completing or expanding ideas
- logical coordination of ideas
- subordination to replace excessive coordination
- logical or succinct subordination
- subordination to show space or time, cause or effect, condition, or concession
- sequence of ideas in a sentence for effectiveness and emphasis
- conciseness (eliminating redundancy, superfluous words and phrases, and awkward constructions)

Attending to audience
- elaboration or support sentences
- transitional devices between sentences and paragraphs
- coherence (focusing on a central idea)
- clear connectors
- word choice
- inverted word order for effectiveness

Controlling language structures
- clear placement of modifiers
- shifts in person, number, and tone
- misplaced and dangling modifiers

Public Release - Selected Response Item - Released in 2009

English Indicator 2.2.3

After seeing a film about secret military codes used during World War II, Anne decided to write an essay about code breaking during that war. Anne's draft requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer the following item.

Which of these is the most clear and effective revision of Sentence 14?

A. The code was eventually broken by workers at Bletchley Park, knowing the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages.
B. Knowing both the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, the workers at Bletchley Park eventually broke the code.
C. The code was eventually broken by workers, because they knew the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, at Bletchley Park.
D. Knowing both the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, the workers eventually broke the code, and they worked at Bletchley Park.

Correct Answer
B. Knowing both the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, the workers at Bletchley Park eventually broke the code.

Item

After seeing a film about secret military codes used during World War II, Anne decided to write an essay about code breaking during that war. Anne's draft requires revisions and edits. Read the draft. Then answer the following item.

Which of these is the most clear and effective revision of Sentence 14?

A. The code was eventually broken by workers at Bletchley Park, knowing the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages.
B. Knowing both the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, the workers at Bletchley Park eventually broke the code.
C. The code was eventually broken by workers, because they knew the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, at Bletchley Park.
D. Knowing both the machine's flaw and knowing the formulaic nature of German messages, the workers eventually broke the code, and they worked at Bletchley Park.

Handouts

Cryptography[1] at Bletchley Park

[1]In 1938, the British government bought Bletchley Park, a sixty-acre estate about 90 miles north of London. [2]At a safe distance from German air attacks, the estate being a secret location for decoding messages sent by the German army.

[3]The coding machine used by the Germans, called Enigma, was invented in 1922 by a German engineer. [4]The code breakers at Bletchley Park obtained a replica of an Enigma machine in 1939. [5]The keyboard was similar to a German typewriter. [6]A system of parts changed the input letters many times.

[7]The German government assumed that the Enigma's codes were unbreakable. [8]Nonetheless, a number of things helped the cryptographers at Bletchley Park break the code. [9]First, there was a flaw with the Germans' machine. [10]No letter could represent itself in a coded message. [11]For example, the letter "A" could be represented by any other letter except "A." [12]Messages also repeated formulaic information. [13]For example, standard greetings followed by a weather report were often the first part of messages. [14]The workers at Bletchley Park, knowing both the machine's flaw and the formulaic nature of German messages, worked until the code was eventually broken.

---

[1] Cryptography: the process of coding or decoding secret messages